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BOSTON 28 OME HUNDRED YEARS A CITY

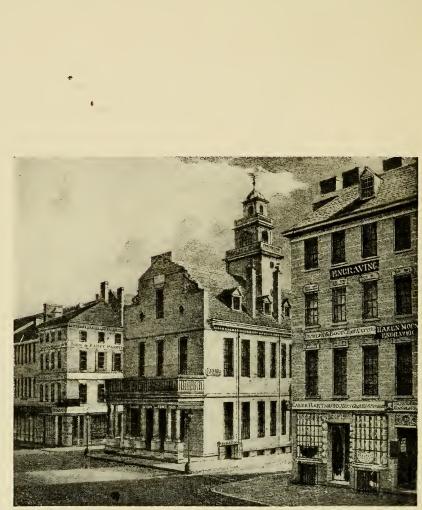
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1822-0- 1922









From a print

In the collection of the State Street Trust Company

WASHINGTON STREET AT THE HEAD OF STATE STREET ABOUT 1835 Showing the end of the Old State House when it was used as a post-office. The building on the right is the site of the proposed new main office of the State Street Trust Company.

B O S T O N ONE HUNDRED YEARS A CITY

A collection of views made from Rare Prints and Old Photographs showing the changes which have occurred in Boston during the One Hundred Years of its existence as A City

1822 - 1922



Presented by the

State Street Trust Company

In commemoration of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Incorporation as a City of Boston Massachusetts

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APR -3 1922

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From a print

In the collection of the State Street Trust Company

THE UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY View of the grounds and structures at its third exhibition in Boston in 1855.

FOREWORD

S with the individual, so with the community, a birthday is an interesting occasion. The State Street Trust Company, in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of Boston as a city, issues as its annual brochure a series of views showing some of the many changes which have taken place in the city during the past century.

Before the town became a city, a form of government was submitted to the people of Boston together with an inquiry as to whether the name "the Town of Boston" should be changed to "the City of Boston." Two thousand, seven hundred and twentyseven voted in the affirmative and 2,087 in the negative, so that a small matter of 640 votes decided that Boston should become a city, and on February 23, 1822, the Governor approved the act establishing "the City of Boston." The new charter was drafted by Lemuel Shaw, later Justice of the Supreme Court, and in it the principal head was named "Mayor," the "Board of Aldermen" was fixed at eight members, and a "Common Council" of forty-eight persons was created, four from each of the twelve wards into which the city was divided.

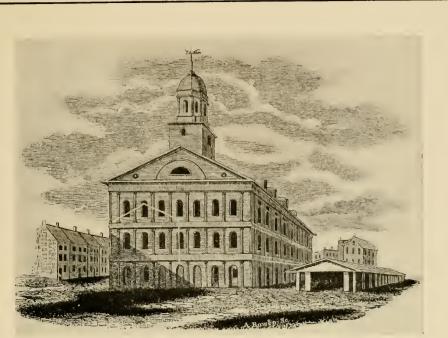
It was not, however, until March 4, 1822, that the charter incorporating the city was accepted by the town, the vote then being 2,797 in favor and 1,881 against, a majority of 916, showing a slight increase in the number of those who favored the change. Accordingly a city government was organized, and on May 1, 1822, John Phillips was chosen mayor. The term of office was one year until the statute of 1895 made it two years. The two-year term began with the election of Josiah Quincy in 1896, but in 1909, in accordance with the statute then passed, a four-year term of office was established. It is interesting, however, to note in detail the steps which made Boston a city.

For many years after the beginning of the settlement, the form of government was that of the old-fashioned town meeting, in which each freeman had a voice and in which town affairs were regulated by the whole body of freemen represented at the meeting. Finally town affairs became so unwieldy that certain persons were delegated to conduct them. At first these were chosen for six months, then for a year, and finally they came to be called the Board of Selectmen.

The town grew rapidly. Its activities became larger than even the Selectmen could regulate. Accordingly officials were chosen to look after special departments of public service, such as constables, surveyors of highway, clerks of market, sealers of leather, packers of fish and meat, and hog reeves. Even with these changes the town form of government had become unwieldy by 1708. and attempts were made to incorporate the town, but these failed. In 1784 a number of influential citizens petitioned for the appointment of a committee, which in due course reported two plans for the better government for Boston. One made the body politic consist of a Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council; the other suggested a President and Board of Selectmen: but the residents were not ready for the adoption of either plan, and it was decided, when put up to the voters, inexpedient to make the alterations suggested. Again in 1791 and 1804 futile efforts were made to secure the consent of the voters that Boston might become a city. When, however, the time had arrived for this important step, it was discovered that no provision existed in the State Constitution which gave authority to the General Court to erect a city government, and this necessarily led to a movement which on April 9, 1821, culminated in the passage of such an amendment to the constitution.

In 1820 the population of Boston was 43,298, and the town meeting had become a farce. It was attended by less than fifty voters, save when questions of great interest came up, and was quite dominated by the public officials who always turned out. Yet every step in the direction of a change of government was opposed by a conservative element, one of the most strenuous objectors being Josiah Quincy, who afterwards became the second mayor of the city.

Matters came to such a pass that a special meeting was called in Faneuil Hall in January, 1822, and a committee reported in



From a print

In the collection of the State Street Trust Company

EXTERIOR OF FANEUIL HALL ABOUT 1826 It was here that the people of Boston voted to change the name "the Town of Boston" to "the City of Boston" and later accepted the charter incorporating the City, March 4, 1822.

favor of a chief executive to be called the Intendant. He was to be elected by the Selectmen. An executive board of seven persons called Selectmen was to be elected by the inhabitants on a general ticket, and a body with mixed legislative and executive powers, called the Board of Assistants, was to be composed of four persons chosen from each of the twelve wards. The report was amended by changing the name "Intendant," taken from the French, to the name "Mayor," "Selectmen" to "Aldermen," and "Board of Assistants" to "Common Council." It was upon the adoption of this report that the people of Boston finally passed favorably.

A comparison of the Boston of 1822 with that of the present may be made by means of the statistics which exist in the statistician's office of the city. While those of 1822 are quite meager as compared with those of today, nevertheless one may, by a comparison, gain some interesting facts as to the changes and expansions that have taken place in the city. The area of the city in 1822 was 4.7 square miles. In 1922 it covers 47.81 square miles, of which 43.55 are land area. Its population has multiplied sixteen times in a hundred years. The approximate population of the city in 1822 was 46,226, while the United States census, which some claim underestimated the actual figures, gives the population in 1920 as 748,060. When Boston became a city it had 7,705 homes and in 1922 it has 164,785. The debt which the city carried over from the town government was \$100,000, being the cost of a jail and court-house on Leverett Street. In 1922, the net city debt is \$79,379,925, or \$99.10 approximate net debt per capita.

The cost of running the city in 1822 was \$249,000. For the fiscal year of 1920-21 the expenses, ordinary and extraordinary, were \$57,477,910. The following figures show the valuation of property at the two periods. In 1822, the total valuation was \$42,140,200 divided as follows—\$23,364,400 real estate and \$18,775,800 personal. The rate of taxation was \$7.30 per thousand, and 8,800 persons were then taxable. This included every male over sixteen years old. In 1920 the valuation of property in the city was \$1,572,458,780 divided into real estate \$1,396,073,300 and personal estate \$176,385,480, the rate of taxation being \$24.10 per thousand, and 195,795 individuals appear as taxable.

On its school department the city spent in the fiscal year of 1820-21 a total of \$45,045. In 1920-21 the amount expended for education was a total of \$10,808,753. In 1822 there were 29 elementary schools containing 3,827 pupils. The English High School for boys started in 1821 with George B. Emerson, a Harvard graduate, as headmaster, and had 6 teachers and 207 pupils. In 1921 there were 279 public schools, 3,422 teachers, and 126,507 pupils. In addition, there were 13,631 students in the evening schools. Private schools of Boston, whose pupils come not alone from Boston, but from the outlying districts, have a registration of 32,132 between the ages of 5 and 16.

In 1822 the only theatre in Boston was the Boston Theatre on Federal and Franklin Streets, which had been remodeled in 1798 and was considered one of the best in the country. The performance began at six o'clock in the winter and half-past six in the spring. Today there are 40 theatres in Boston, 36 motionpicture houses, 80 halls which seat four hundred or more, and 62 halls seating less than four hundred.

There was no organized fire department in 1822. In 1922 Boston has a highly organized fire force comprising 1,170 men, with 62 fire stations and 1,205 alarm boxes. In 1822 the men who worked the engines received a small compensation and were exempt from militia duty. In 1920 the cost of the fire department was \$3,223,133 including pensions. The "Constables" who kept the Bostonians of 1822 in order are now replaced by 1,846 policemen. In the city today there are 135 hotels, 33 incorporated hospitals, and 3,077 manufacturing plants. The largest number of establishments in any one industry is in the book and job printing business—311 individual enterprises. The confectionery and ice-cream trades employ the largest number of workers.

It is fitting that we should here acknowledge our indebtedness to the following who have assisted in the preparation of this brochure by permitting us to use photographs and prints: the directors of the Boston Real Estate Exchange, the members of the House Committee of the Exchange Club, the Bostonian Society, the officers of the New England Mutual Life Insurance Company, J. Sumner Draper and Mark Temple Dowling, Claude Fisher, Herman Parker of Macullar Parker Company, and Henry Penn of Penn the Florist. We desire especially to mention the cordial co-operation given to us by Walter K. Watkins, Charles F. Read and William B. Clarke of the Bostonian Society.

Thanks are also due to the Hon. Andrew J. Peters, Ex-Mayor of Boston, to the late Dr. Edward M. Hartwell, City Statistician, and Horace R. Keay and William T. Seeger of his office, Irwin C. Cromack, assistant chief City Engineer, and James Donovan, City Clerk, for their help in preparing this brochure.



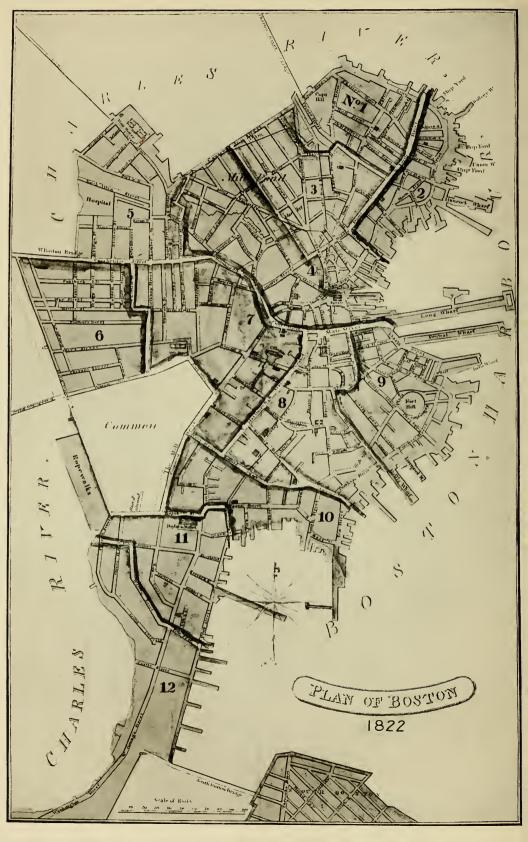
CHARLES RIVER EMBANKMENT BEFORE CONSTRUCTION OF ESPLANADE



THE SILVER CASKET WHICH CONTAINS THE ORIGINAL CHARTER OF THE CITY OF BOSTON The engraving shows the names of the mayors who were elected under this charter and served the city from 1822 to 1854.

VIEWS OF BOSTON





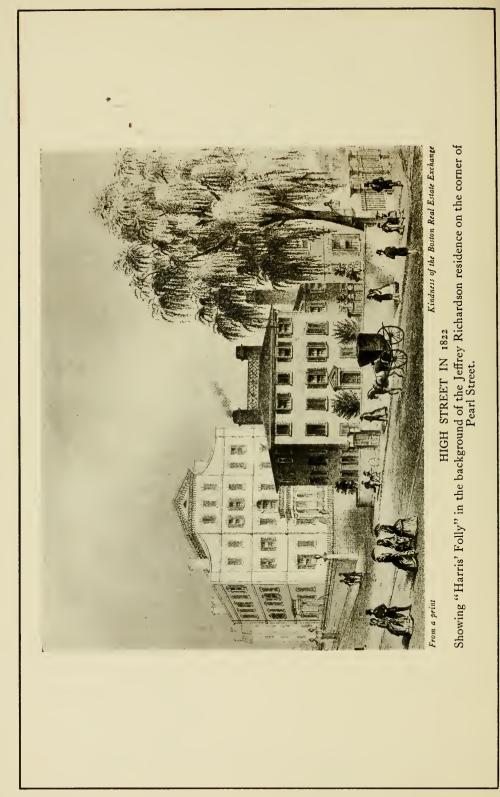


From a map

Courtesy of The Heliotype Company of Boston

PLAN OF BOSTON 1922

The section enclosed and marked No. 1 shows the size of Boston in 1822, which is shown in detail on the opposite page. Boston in 1822 was bounded roughly on the west by Charles Street and the South Boston Bridge.



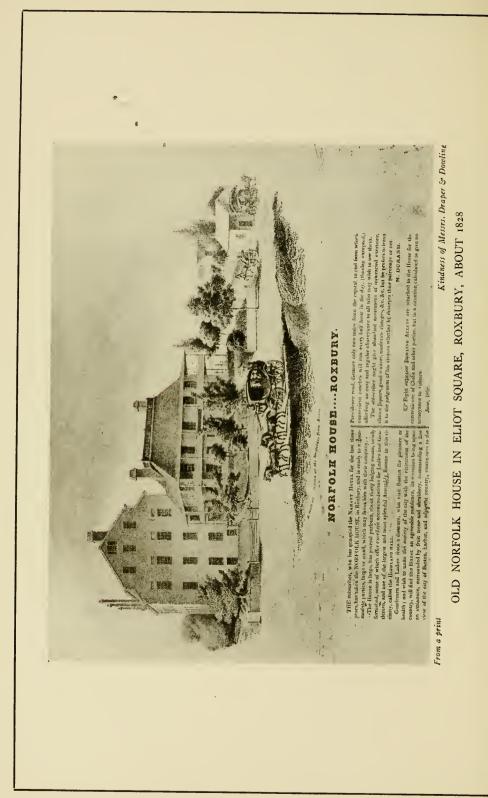


From a photograph

Kindness of Messrs. Draper & Dowling

THE OLD CITY HALL OF BOSTON ON SCHOOL STREET

Before the erection of the present building it was here that the city officials, under the charter of 1822, first had their offices. To the left of the picture can be seen the former Registry of Deeds and to the right, the Niles Building.

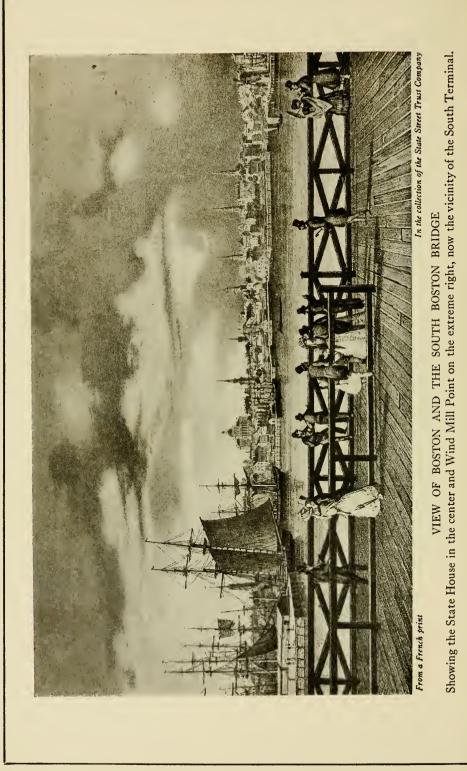




From a photograph

Kindness of the Boston Real Estate Exchange

THE RESIDENCE OF SAMUEL WHITWELL Built by him in 1822, on Winthrop Place, now Winthrop Square.



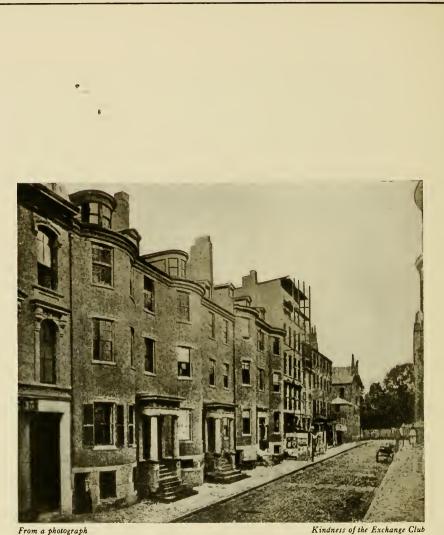


From a photograph

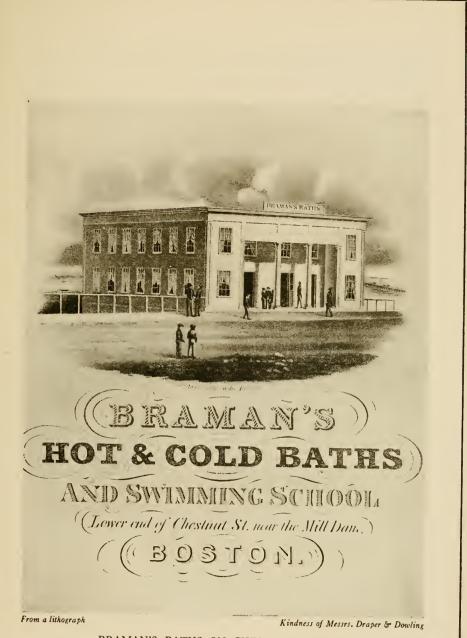
Kindness of the Exchange Club

THE BRADLEE-DOGGETT HOUSE

Formerly on the corner of Tremont and Hollis Streets, where some of the Boston Tea Party assembled. On the left of the picture can be seen the Hollis Street Church, later altered as the Hollis Street Theatre.



TEMPLE PLACE Looking toward Tremont Street and the Common.



BRAMAN'S BATHS ON CHESTNUT STREET

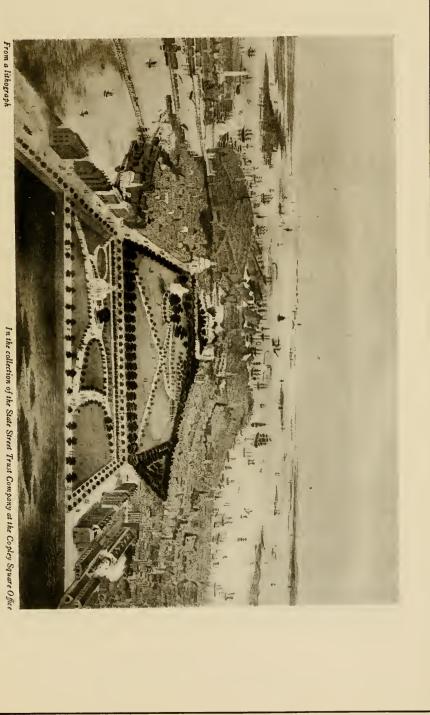


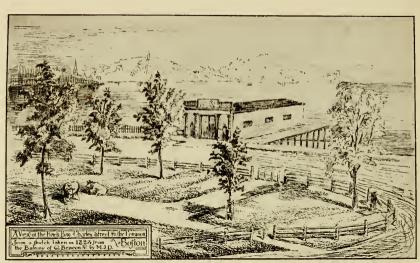
From a photograph

Kindness of the Exchange Club

THE OLD BROMFIELD HOUSE ON BROMFIELD STREET IN 1858 With the Bromfield Street Methodist Church on the extreme right. The archway shown in the center of the picture, still in existence, was then the entrance to the stable in the rear of the hotel.

A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF BOSTON AND ITS SURROUNDINGS IN 1850





From a drawing

Kindness of the Bostonian Society

VIEW OF THE BACK BAY, CHARLES STREET AND THE COMMON IN 1823

The building shown is the gun house of the Sea Fencibles, an independent company of maritime men. Sketch from the balcony of 61 Beacon Street.



From a photograph

Kindness of the Exchange Club

THE OLD SHEAFE HOUSE

On the corner of Columbia and Essex Streets, which was Earl Percy's headquarters during the siege of Boston.



From a photograph

Kundness of the Boston Real Estate Exchange

SCOLLAY SQUARE

Looking toward Pemberton Square. On the left is the site of the Suffolk Savings Bank and on the right, the Scollay Building. The dwellings seen in the background are now on the site of the present Court House.



From a print

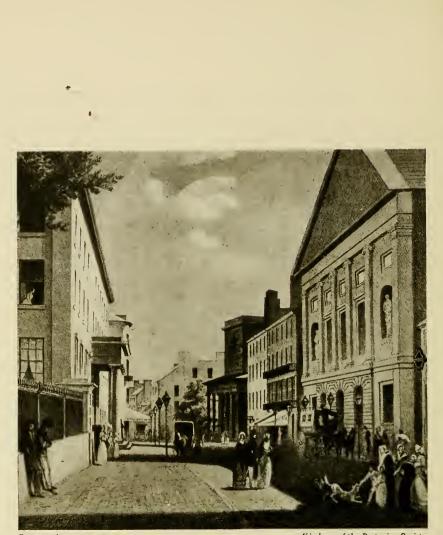
Kindness of Messrs. Draper & Dowling

CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY CROSS On Franklin Street near the corner of Devonshire Street. Showing Winter Street on the left and beyond Masonic Temple at the corner of Temple Place. The steps of the Park Street Church, Boston Common fence and the Elms are shown on the right. TREMONT STREET

Kindness of the Exchange Club

From a print





From a print

Kindness of the Bostonian Society

TREMONT STREET IN 1843

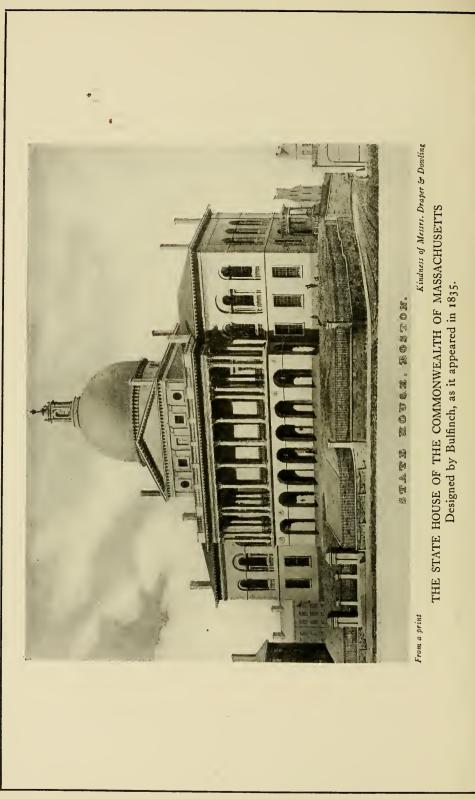
Showing on the left the old Tremont House, and on the right, Tremont Theatre, later Tremont Temple, since burned and rebuilt. King's Chapel and burial-ground are seen beyond.



From a photograph

Kindness of the Exchange Club

NORTH SIDE OF COURT STREET The present site of the Ames Building on the corner of Washington Street.

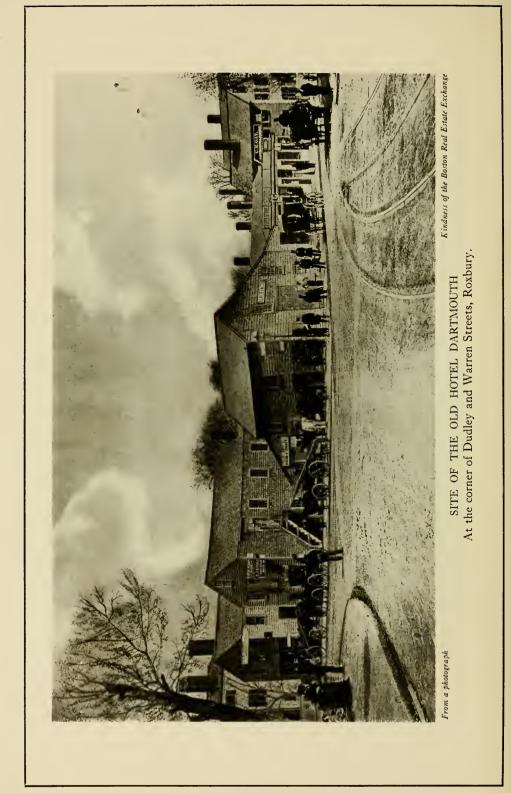


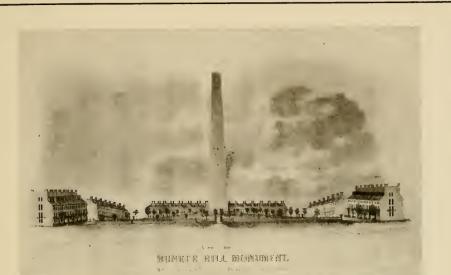


From a photograph

Kindness of the Boston Real Estate Exchange

THE ORIGINAL LOCATION OF S. S. PIERCE COMPANY On Court Street. Showing Tremont Street on the right. George Washington lodged in this building in 1789.





From a print

In the collection of the State Street Trust Company

BUNKER HILL MONUMENT, CHARLESTOWN The earliest view, showing the restricted style of residences.

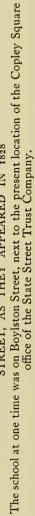


From a print

Kindness of the Bostonian Society

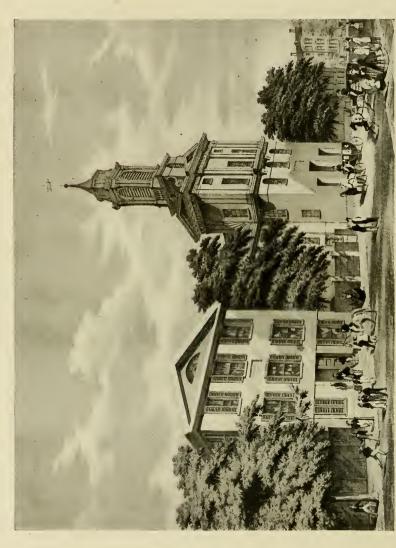
VIEW OF SUMMER STREET

Showing the Meeting-house of the New South Society, designed by Bulfinch, on Church Green at the junction of Bedford and Summer Streets.



Kindness of Messrs. Draper & Dowling CHAUNCY HALL SCHOOL AND FIRST CHURCH ON CHAUNCY PLACE, NOW CHAUNCY STREET, AS THEY APPEARED IN 1828

From a print





From a photograph

Kindness of the Boston Real Estate Exchange

THE SAMUEL N. BROWN HOUSE

On Dartmouth Street at the corner of Blagden Street, the site of the Boston Public Library in Copley Square. On the right is the unfinished tower of the New Old South Church on Boylston Street.



From a painting

Kindness of the Bostonian Society

NORTH SIDE OF STATE STREET FROM WASHINGTON STREET As it appeared in 1825. On the left is the site of the first shop in Boston and of the present Devonshire Building and on the right is the Old State House.



From a photograph

Kindness of J. Murray Forbes

PEMBERTON SQUARE ABOUT 1860

On the left is the present site of the Suffolk County Court House, in the center background, Police Headquarters, and on the right, Barristers Hall, and the extreme right, the Pemberton Building.

Among the residents of this locality were the following: Dr. George C. Shattuck, Mrs. John Mackay, Samuel R. Putnam, Joseph Coolidge, F. B. Crowninshield, Robert M. Mason, Nathaniel I. Bowditch, John A. Lowell, Peter C. Brooks, Jr., P. S. Shelton, Josiah Bardwell, Mark Healey, R. C. Winthrop, and Mrs. Henry Sigourney.



From a photograph

STATE STREET

Showing the Merchants Exchange as it appeared in 1860. These buildings are now replaced by the Exchange Building, number 53 State Street.

Kindness of the Exchange Club



From a lithograph

Kindness of Messrs. Draper & Dowling

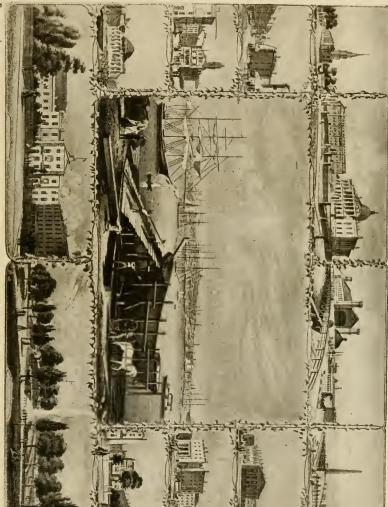
NATIONAL HORSE & CARRIAGE MART ON PORTLAND STREET This street has been since 1875—about the time of this print—the center of auction sales of horses, carriages, etc., and the above illustration shows the form of advertising used in early days.



COMMONWEALTH AVENUE AT THE CORNER OF DARTMOUTH STREET Showing the Hotel Vendome before the addition was built. VIEW OF BOSTON HARBOR FROM EAST BOSTON ABOUT 1860

In the collection of the State Street Trust Company

From a print



llouse, Fitch-burg Railroad Depot, Bunker

seen views of

Church, State the Park Street right can be ginning on the edge of the

top from left to

picture be-

Around the

ment, Boston

Hill Monu-

mon, City Hall, Custom and the Scollay Building. Tremont Row State House, House, Old Boston Comcock House, House, Han-Depot, Revere and Maine



From a print

Kindness of Messrs. Draper & Dowling

SUMMER STREET Showing the South Boston horse railway depot at Church Green.

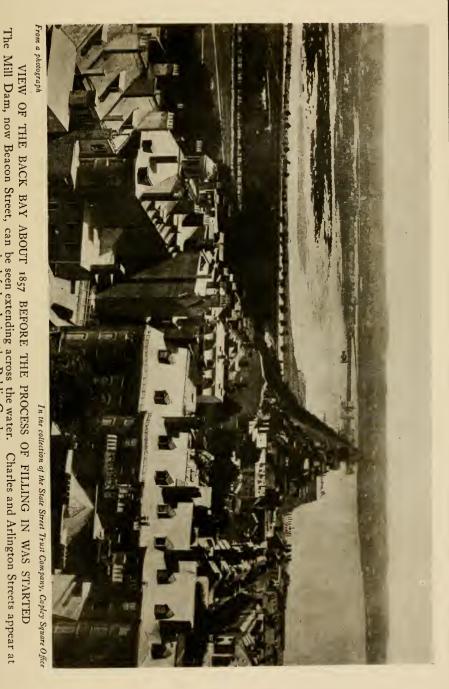


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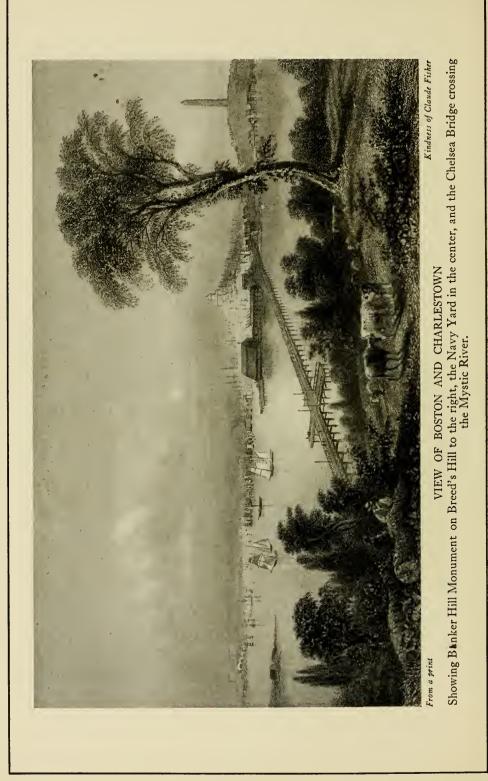
Kindness of Henry Penn

PARK STREET FROM TREMONT STREET

Showing the Common on the left, the State House on Beacon Hill in the center, and the Park Street Church and Burying Ground on the right. The original is in the possession of Bostonian Society.



The Mill Dam, now Beacon Street, can be seen extending across the water. the left bordering the Public Garden.





From a photograph

Kindness of the Boston Real Estate Exchange

LOOKING DOWN CONGRESS STREET

Showing the old Traveller Building at the corner of State Street, now the site of the main office of the State Street Trust Company.

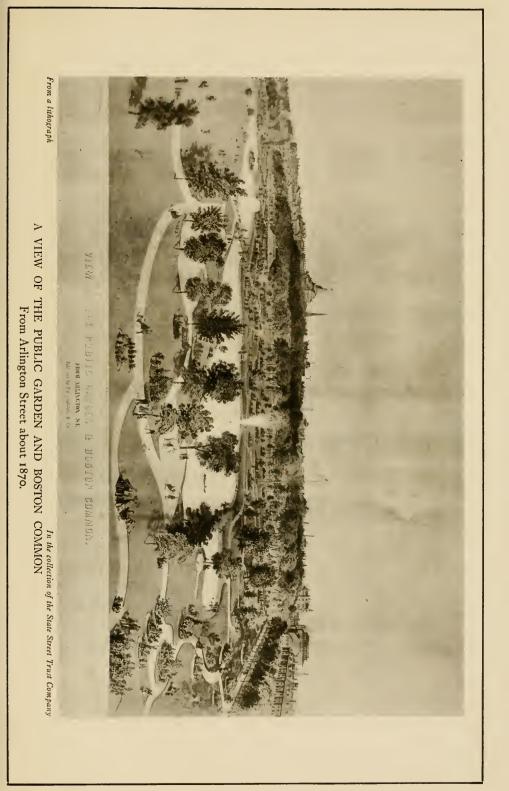


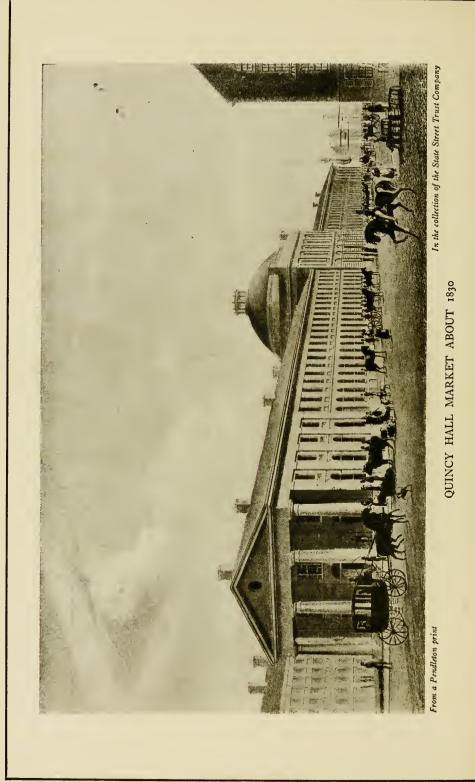
From a photograph

Kindness of the Boston Real Estate Exchange

THE OLD HOTEL BOYLSTON AT THE CORNER OF TREMONT AND BOYLSTON STREETS

Now the site of the Hotel Touraine. On the right of the picture can be seen the Hotel Pelham, now replaced by the Little Building.





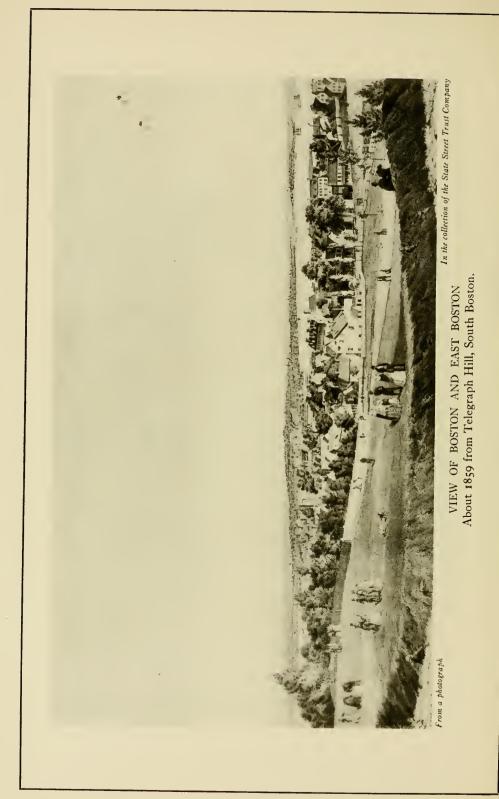


From a photograph

Kindness of the Boston Real Estate Exchange

THE OLD BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY ON BOYLSTON STREET

Later used as a zoo for animals and now the site of the Colonial Building. The fence in the foreground was used to surround the Deer Park on Boston Common.

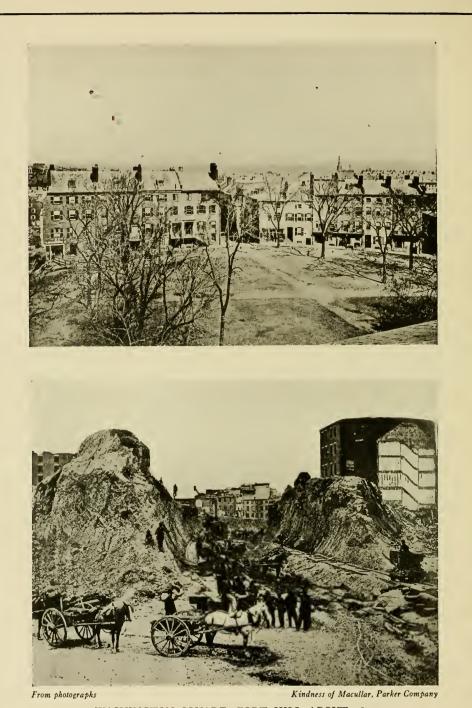




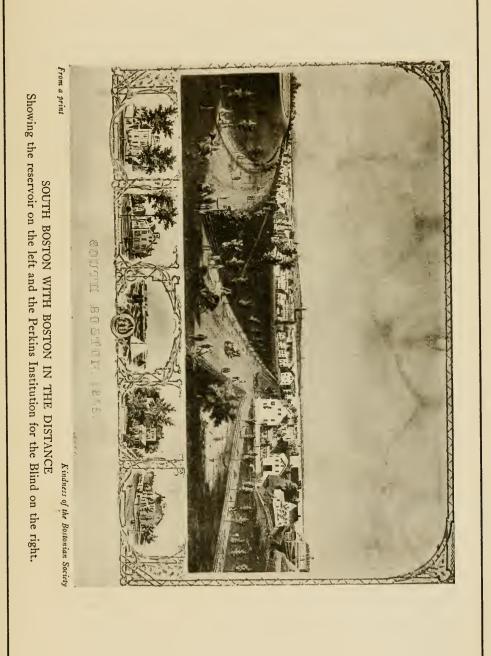
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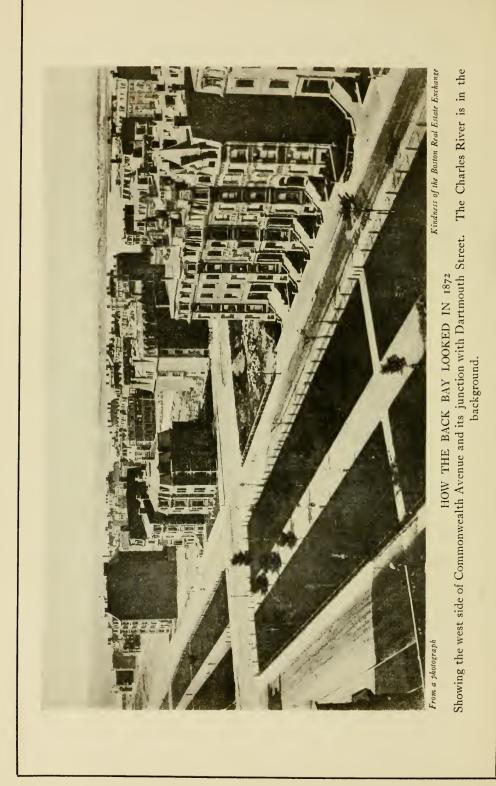
Kindness of the Boston Real Estate Exchange

PARK SQUARE IN 1870 Looking toward the second Boston and Providence Railroad Station from Boston Common.



WASHINGTON SQUARE, FORT HILL ABOUT 1870 Showing (above) Fort Hill before and (below) Fort Hill during the process of demolition. The dirt removed was used in filling in Atlantic Avenue and the Shawmut Avenue District.







From a photograph

Kindness of the Boston Real Estate Exchange

TRINITY CHURCH IN COPLEY SQUARE ABOUT 1877

Showing the Hotel Brunswick on the left. The site of the Hotel Westminster can be seen on the right. Just beyond the tower on the extreme right of Trinity Church is the site of the present new building of the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Co.



From a photograph

Kundness of the Exchange Club

THE CUSTOM HOUSE OF BOSTON

On lower State Street before its tower was built. On the right can be seen the Boston Chamber of Commerce Building, and in the foreground the site of the Board of Trade Building.

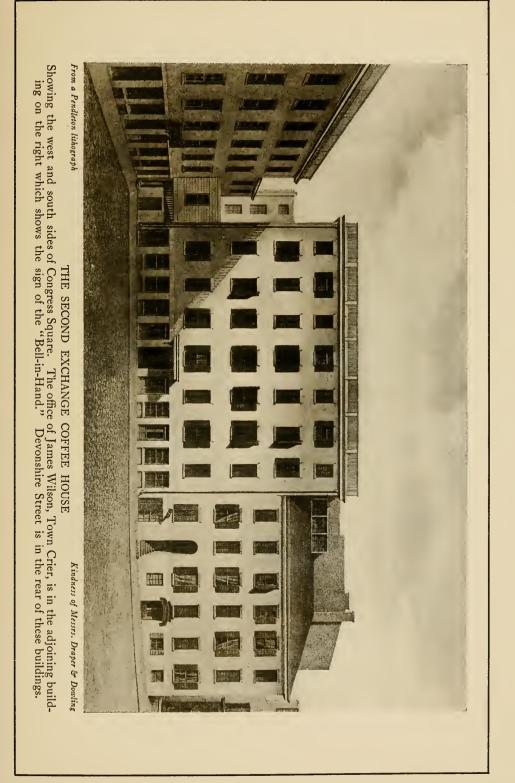


MERCHANTS ROW, BOSTON.

From a Pendleton lithograph

Kindness of Messrs. Draper & Dowling

THE FRANKLIN HOTEL IN 1829 West side of Merchants Row between Franklin Hall Square and North Street.

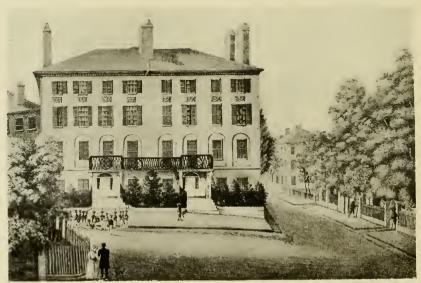




From a painting

Kindness of New England Mutual Life Insurance Co.

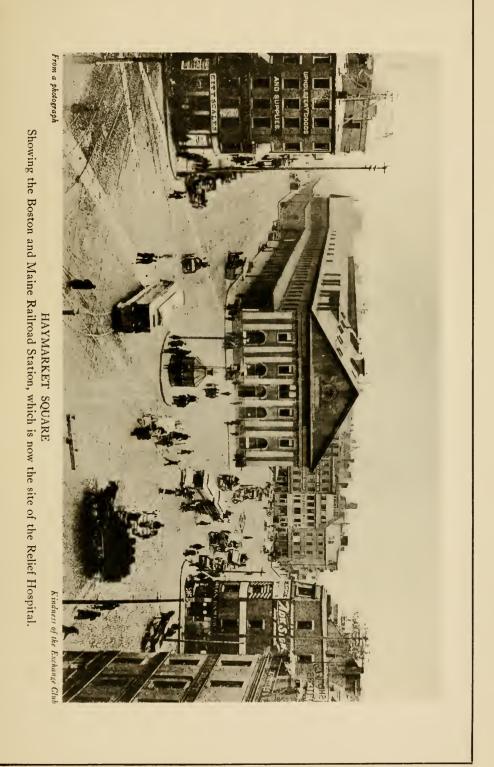
POST OFFICE SQUARE IN 1878 Showing the New England Mutual Life Insurance Company building, between Pearl and Congress Streets on Milk Street.



From a lithograph

Kindness of the Bostonian Society

THE BLAKE-SHAW HOUSES IN BOWDOIN SQUARE Between Green and Cambridge Streets, built by Samuel Parkman about 1810.





THE OLD HANCOCK HOUSE

Formerly the old Hancock Tavern, located on Corn Court off Faneuil Hall Square. Up to the time it was torn down in 1902, it was considered the oldest tavern in Boston.



BOYLSTON STREET Looking toward Tremont Street. The building in the center is the Old Public Library.





